

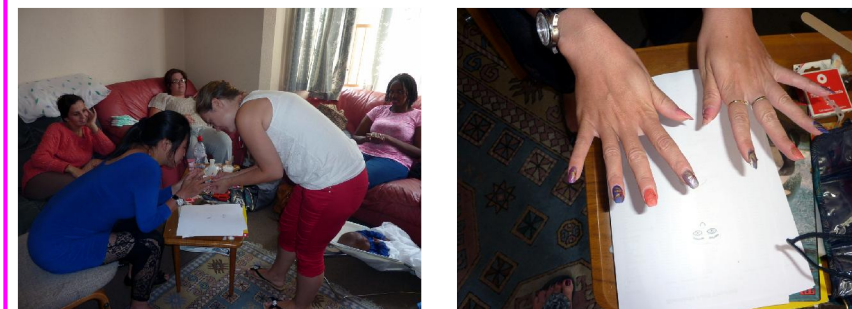
## Parents had fun when it came to crafting their own Christmas Cards

A few of our parents got to enjoy Christmas crafts when they came up with the idea of making their own Christmas cards.



## What else has been happening

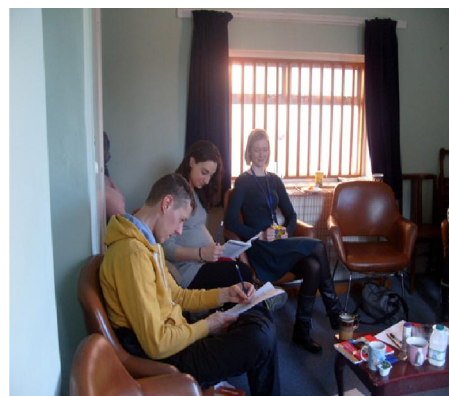
Some of the mums had a bit of pampering time learning to do their nails.



## Gloucester Targeted Support Team

The Gloucester Targeted Support Team is an organisation based in Gloucester working with vulnerable families. They run the Triple P parenting program and offered to come in to The Family Haven to run the course. Five of our parents have taken up the opportunity. The program is designed to support parents in their parenting role and to help them improve their skills and build positive relationships with their children

The course runs once a week for four weeks with a further three weeks follow up by telephone, to see how things are going in practice. For the final session everyone gets back together to talk about how things have improved, to discuss any difficulties and explore any areas that did not improve. In this session the parents will be able to ask for any further support.



## Farewell



We will soon be saying goodbye to our Cook / Healthy Eating Project Supervisor Janet Oliffe who will be leaving us on the 19th February to take a new job as Duty Manager at an assisted living facility.

The Family Haven Staff would like to say a big thank you for the hard work and dedication Janet has given to The Family Haven for the past 7 years. We wish her all the best for the future. She will be missed by all the staff, children and parents.

## Become A Friend

Why become a Friend? As a Friend of The Family Haven you will be supporting the trustees and staff in helping provide the services our families so desperately need. Your regular subscriptions and offers of voluntary help are invaluable and support us in delivering our aims.

Call 01452 422971 for an application form or download it from <http://bit.ly/YtnESd>



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# THE FAMILY HAVEN

Helping vulnerable families to a brighter future for 25 years

## New Garden and Play area for Nursery

We are really pleased that our outdoor play area refurbishment has been completed and is available to the children. It was tired looking and the children weren't stimulated by the outdoor provision.

When RoSPA identified that the all weather flooring needed replacing we managed to secure a grant from The Wooden Spoon Charity to allow us to re-design the outdoor area. A team from Ecclesiastical designed and painted the mural, and provided the board to paint on. Nick's Timber provided the fencing we needed to support the mural and make the area safe. Screwfix Foundation had previously provided a grant with which we purchased many of the tools and sundries used by our volunteer Gary and trustee Brian in erecting the fence. We have received support from many people and organisations that have made the new area possible and we thank them.

Having a new exciting area to play and explore has already benefitted the children as they have areas where they can use their own imaginations and bring to life with toys or just the use of the space. The water shoot is wonderful; the children have been using it to place balls and lots of different objects in to see if they roll just the same as the water. Having a new space to learn and grow has helped the children develop their sense of adventure; they are all excited about going out to play!



## Newsletter

Volume 26, Issue 1

January 2015

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**The Family Haven**  
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## Christmas Party Days 2014

Due to the number of families we are supporting we had to have two Christmas party days to ensure that no one was left out. The children played games in the nursery whilst their parents tried their luck on the Christmas raffle. We served 25 parents and 28 children over the two days. A good time was had by everyone. We would like to say a big thank you to our cook Janet Oliffe for the wonderful Christmas feast. Thanks also to Santa who took time out of his very busy schedule to put a smile on the children's faces.

We could not make this possible by ourselves. Thanks to the efforts of our ever increasing number of volunteers and supporters we were able to make it a day to be remembered for parents and children alike. Our most sincere thanks goes to everyone who donated their valuable time, food, gifts and financial support.

We can not emphasise enough the difference that these acts of kindness make to our families, it enables us to give everyone a gift to open on Christmas Day. In many cases these gifts will be all they will have to open on Christmas morning!



## Our families enjoy a trip to Clearwell Caves to visit Father Christmas

Some of our Nursery staff and families had a fantastic day out on the 23rd December when they went to Clearwell Caves in the Forest of Dean to visit Father Christmas. Everyone had a fun day exploring the caves and wondering at the fantastic displays. The children had a great time and were all excited to see Father Christmas and receive a present.



## The children always enjoy trying their hands at baking.

The children always enjoy themselves when it comes to making cupcakes, cookies and tarts. The best part of course is in the eating all the goodies they make. Who knows we may have the next Jamie Oliver or Nigella Lawson in our midst.

